



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

JUN 11 2010

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CECW-CO


MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS,
DISTRICT COMMANDS, AND CHIEFS, OPERATIONS DIVISIONS

SUBJECT: American Recreation Coalition's 2010 Beacon Award Selection

1. Reference memorandum, CECW-CO, 05 Apr 10, subject: Request for Nominations for the American Recreation Coalition's Legends and Beacon Awards.
2. The American Recreation Coalition (ARC) has chosen the Lake Ouachita Citizens Focus Committee as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recipient of the 2010 Beacon Award.
3. The ARC created the Beacon Award to recognize leadership and innovation in utilizing technology to enhance visitor services and recreation management on public lands and waters. Lake Ouachita Citizens Focus Committee (LOCFC) was established to assist the Corps in developing initiatives to enhance public recreation opportunities at Lake Ouachita, Vicksburg District. LOCFC is comprised of community volunteers, who without a budget, continually utilize technology, grants, and partnerships to benefit visitor services at Lake Ouachita. LOCFC has worked with many other stakeholder groups, agencies, and schools on a variety of projects including the Lake Ouachita Vista Trail (LOViT), campground modernization, fisheries habitat restoration, and building community support for public outdoor recreation uses and enjoyment.
4. I was honored to accept the Beacon Award on behalf of the LOCFC at the recent Great Outdoors Week kick-off event at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge. The award citation and summary of achievements is enclosed for your information. I extend my congratulations to the Lake Ouachita staff and the LOCFC for their success and the exemplary service that earned them this prestigious award.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Enclosure


MICHAEL G. ENSCH
Chief, Operations
Directorate of Civil Works

Citation

The Lake Ouachita Citizens Focus Committee is recognized for exceptionally meritorious achievements while in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lake Ouachita. Comprising a diverse volunteer team, the Lake Ouachita Citizens Focus Committee, operating without budget resources, has continually bettered visitor services through innovative technological partnerships and good old-fashioned hard work. The Focus Committee brings distinct credit to their team, the Vicksburg District, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Summary

In existence for less than a decade, the Lake Ouachita Citizens Focus Committee, a total volunteer team, has made tremendous strides and positive differences for the benefit of Lake Ouachita visitors and destination based tourism. Operating on a shoestring without a budget, dues, etc., they continually utilize technology, grants, and partnerships to complete many notable accomplishments. This focus committee reflects a can-do attitude which meets challenges head-on. Lake Ouachita Citizen Focus Committee's willingness to embrace new technologies through innovative partnerships has ultimately improved visitor services while fostering steward based public awareness.

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